

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS


Claims 1-24 are pending in the application. Claims 1-24 were rejected in the Office Action of March 30, 2005. Claims 1-24 have been amended. These amendments were made for formal reasons only and should not be interpreted as narrowing the scope of the claims. Specifically, claims 1-24 are amended to improve the grammar and to use a consistent form of definite articles throughout the claims. A new claim 25 is directed to a specific embodiment of the invention without prejudice to the allowance of the broad claims.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102.

The Office Action has rejected claims 1-24 under 35 U.S.C. §102 as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 5,752,243 issued to Reiter, et al (hereafter, "Reiter"). Applicant refers to the remarks made in the amendment of March 30, 2005. Applicant further submits that claim 25 is allowable in light of the foregoing remarks.

For the foregoing reasons, Applicant respectfully requests allowance of the pending claims and that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

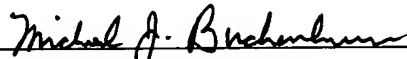

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I hereby certify that this Amendment and Response to Office Action, and any documents referred to as attached therein, are being deposited with the United States Postal Office with sufficient postage as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.


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